



San Diego City Attorney **CASEY GWINN**

MEDIA RELEASE

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STEVE HANSEN--PROSECUTOR OF THE YEAR

City of San Diego Honors Deputy City Attorney

San Diego, CA –The Prosecutor of the Year received a standing ovation from the Mayor, San Diego City Council, and the public. San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn announced at today's City Council meeting that **Steven K. Hansen** is the 2000 Prosecutor of the Year in the office of the San Diego City Attorney. Hansen is the Head Deputy of the Criminal Division's Appellate Unit. He has held the position since 1996, and for the past thirteen years has provided loyal service to the City of San Diego as a Deputy City Attorney. San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn said, "Steve is an intelligent, knowledgeable, and creative prosecutor, committed to protecting the people of San Diego and to enhancing the City Attorney's community of lawyers and staff. Steve performs his job with great professionalism, patience, and integrity."

The Mayor and the San Diego City Council commended Steven Hansen as the recipient of the 2000 Prosecutor of the Year Award by presenting him with a proclamation, declaring the day in his honor: July 17, 2001, "Steven Hansen Day" in the City of San Diego. In addition, Hansen also received a San Diego City Attorney watch and discretionary leave time as small tokens of his incredible service to the people of San Diego. Hansen was selected by the San Diego City Attorney's Leadership Team from an outstanding list of nominees from the Criminal Division who were recommended by colleagues and judges.

Among Hansen's list of accomplishments in 2000: 1) Won 99% of all criminal appeals (45) argued before the Appellate Division of the San Diego County Superior Court; 2) Won 96% of all pre-trial criminal motions (508) argued before the San Diego County Superior Court; 3)

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Hansen provided exceptional legal support to City Attorney Casey Gwinn on a high profile domestic violence case against a former teacher who was sentenced to more than four years in jail after being convicted of stalking, domestic violence, restraining order violations, and weapons charges. The case is presently on appeal; 4) Hansen also worked on important appellate issues related to disclosure of police personnel records in resisting arrest cases; 5) Day in and day out, Hansen also helped his fellow deputies research and resolve legal issues, ensuring success in the courtroom and in our communities. Hansen provided this behind-the-scenes support, while handling and prevailing in his own caseload of motions and appeals; and 6) To ensure success in working with crime victims, police officers, and community members, Steve continued to provide all of the attorneys in the Criminal Division with up-to-date information about new statutory and case law and thoughtful analysis of complex legal issues.

Hansen graduated with honors in psychology from Drake University and graduated with distinction from the University of Iowa College of Law. The selection committee also recognized Hansen as a gifted writer who is responsible for editing and approving all legal arguments filed by the Appellate Unit. In addition, if there is a hot legal issue, Hansen knows about it and shares his knowledge with the other attorneys in the Criminal Division. He brings his unique sense of humor and style to the office and to the courtroom, and is an invaluable asset to the City Attorney's team.

In 1998, San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn established a Prosecutor of the Year Award. This Award acknowledges and rewards the Deputy City Attorney whose professional accomplishments and abilities and whose contributions to the community best demonstrate and fulfill the mission of the Criminal Division of the San Diego City Attorney's Office.

The mission of the Criminal Division is to protect the safety and quality of life of the people of San Diego by intervening to stop criminal conduct at the misdemeanor level. The Criminal Division provides legal service with professionalism, integrity, and excellence, focusing on (1) aggressive, just, and effective prosecution; (2) early intervention and proactive lawyering; and (3) promoting public awareness of legal issues affecting the people of San Diego.

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